



AN APOLOGIE.

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|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Or rather a retractation. | 2. Or rather a recantation. |
| 3. Or rather a recapitulation. | 4. Or rather a replication. |
| 5. Or rather an examination. | 6. Or rather an accusation. |
| 7. Or rather an explication. | 8. Or rather an exhortation. |
| 9. Or rather a consideration. | 10. Or rather a confirmation. |
| 11. Or rather all of them. | 12. Or rather none of them. |



When I had finished the precedent pamphlet, & in mine own fantasie verie sufficiētly euacuated my heade of such homely stufte, of which it might seeme it was very full charged, & shewed how litle conceit or opinion I had of mine owne abilitie, to handle stately matters, by chusing so mean a subiect to discharge my selfe vpon: I thought now to rest me a while, & to gather some strength, by feeding on some finer meates, & making some culleffes & restoratiues for my self out of some other mens kitchins, & not opē this vaine any more. But I laboured all in vaine to stop such a vaine: for certaine people of the nature of those that first dwelt in the Canaries, haue forced me to a further labor. For whether it were ouer-watching my selfe at primero, or eating too much venison, which they say is a very melancholie meat: I

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The saying is
Thrise an vnder-
shiriffe &
euer a knaue.

knowe not how, but betimes one morning when we vse commonly to take our sweetest sleep, namely between eight and halfe houre past ten. I was either in so straunge a drea me or in so straunge a melancholie, that me thought there came to me a nimble dapper fellow (I cannot hit on his name) one that hath pretie petifogging skill in the law, and hath bene an vnder Shiriffe (but not thrise) and is now in the nature of an Atturney, this honest friend told me this solemne tale, I was (saith he) yesternight at suppet at

) Ordinary, and there met M. Zoilus, M. Momus, and three or foure good natured Gentlemen more of the same crew, and toward the ende of supper they fell to talking (as their maner is) of certaine bookes lately come foorth. And one of them tolde how Lipsius the great Politicke (that learned to speake so good English but a while since) had written a booke *de Crace*, protesting that though he vnderstood not the language, yet it offended his conscience, to see so many crosses in one booke, and he haue so fewe in his purse; then they spake of M. Raynoldes booke against Bellarmine, but they could finde not fault with it, for they said it was of a matter they vsed not to trouble themselues withall: thirdly, they descanted of the new Faerie *Queene* and the old both,

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both, and the greatest fault they could finde in it, was that the last verse disordered their mouthes, and was lyke a trycke of seuentene in a sinkapace. Finally they ranne ouer many mens writings, saying some wanted rime, some wanted reason, and some both. One they saide, was so young that he had not yet learned to write, another so olde, he had forgotten to wryte, and was fit now to bee *donatus rude*, as Horace sayth. But to make short, at last one of them pulled out of his bosome a booke that was not to be solde in Paules Churchyarde, but onely that hee had borrowed it of his friende, and it was intituled. *The Metamorphosis of A-I-A-X*, at which they began to make maruellous sporte: and because it was a raynye nyght, they agreed to reade ouer the whole discourse to passe the tyme with. Fyrst they reade the Authours name, and though they vnderstood it not, yet that it might not passe without a iest, they swore that it signified *Misse in a sacke of Mofse*. They read the letters and stumbling once or twice on a figure called *Prolepsis* or preuention, they were angry their scoffes were so preuented. But when they founde *Rabbles* named, then they were at home, they looked for pure stuffe, where he was cited for an author.

The letters being ended, they perused the

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And they
both be hone-
ster occupati-
ons, then Zou-
lus & Momus.

pictures, they swore they were fit for a gong-
farmer and a chimney sweeper. Then they
fell to the Metamorpho-sis, it pleased them
well, they saide it was scurrill, base, shallow,
sordidous, the dittie, the dirge, the etymo-
logy, the pictures gaue matter of iest, of scorn,
of dirision of contempt.

At last they came to the intent (as they
thought of the whole discourse of reforming
Maister A I A X ill breath, why they were
so pleased with it, they were readie to vn-
trusse, and thought to haue gone to it pre-
sentlie: but when they came to the exposi-
tion of the name *Misacmos*, and founde it
was a hater of filth, it was such a ierke, that
they were halfe out of countenance with it:
swoundes saith one of them, this fellow is an
emie to vs, for wee are counted but filthie
fellowes among the graue gray beardes. But
at last, when they were come to the dou-
ble distichon, directly entituled to them by
name, they had no sooner reade it, but
there was such spitting and spallyng, as
though they had beene halfe choked, they
thought they shoulde neuer get the taste out
of their mouthes, yet they tooke immediat-
ly fiftie pypes of Tabacco betweene five of
them, and an ounce or two of kissing Com-
fits. And soone after swearing ouer a Pater
noster or two, and cursing two or three Cre-
does,

Martial saith
quincuncies
puro et de-
ceperatio.

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does, (I meane the poxe and three or foure
small curses) they vowed a solemne reuenge,
and taking penne and inke, they fall to quo-
ting of it, meeting with some matter almost
in euerie page, either to deride or to carpe at,
and when they had done (for it would make
a booke to tell all that passed among them)
at last one of them who had some iudgement,
but not lesse malice then the rest, layde in
great choller, doth this idle headed wyter,
because he can tell a tale of old *Siercutius* out
of S. Augustine thinke that his wit will serue
him to finde meanes to amend the ill seuours
in Richmond and Greenwich? No, if Her-
cules that serued *Augens*, if *Atlas* that sustai-
ned the worlde, if Saint Christopher that is
painted at Richmond with his cariage, *qui*
tollit peccata mundi, if all these should ioyne
with him, I doubt if it could be doone. Yet
saide an other of them (in scoffe) wee maye
thanke him for his good meaning. Nay ra-
ther saide a third man in earnest, let vs plague
him for his malapertnesse. In conclusion, they
all layed their heads together, as neare as
they coulde for their browe antlers, and deu-
ised to indite you at a priuie Sessions. Some
said, you coulde not be indited, except you
were put out of the peace first: but strayght
one alledged a President in Wiltshire, of a Ju-
stice indited for a Barreter. Now therefore said

That they
found in the
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my litle Attorney) aduise you how to answer it, for the Session wilbe a purchased session sooner then you looke for it. Hee had but newe ended his speech, and I had scarce leysure to thanke him, when me thought there rushed into my chamber, a thicke well trusted fellow, with a badge iust ouer his heart, and commaunds me in the name that I loue aboue all names, to goe immediatlye with him. I must say truly, that though I blessed the name he vsed, and the badge he ware; yet I beshrewed his heart for bringing me no better newes next my heart, but with him I went (for needes must he goe whom the diuell driues) and yet why shoulde I belye the diuell? I thinke for fortie shillings more then his fee, hee would haue beene seeking mee a moneth in euery place, saue where I was. But to proceede, mee thought this gentle pursuant brought me before an austere and graue Magistrate, whome I greatly loued and honored, to aunswere to diuers obiections and articles, that I neuer expected to be charged with. I comforted my selfe as well as I could with an old adage or two, *qui vadit plane vadit sane*, the plaine way hath the surest footing, and *magna est veritas, & praeualet*, great is the truth, and preuaileth, and then answered my accusers as I could.

The maner of the accusatiō, was not much vnlike

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vnlike to assalt of a towne : For first they skirmished as it were with small shot, which I bare off with the armour & shield of plaine dealing and honest supplicite, but finding their forces increase, I was glad to retire me into the Castle of innocencie, where they made a fore batterie, with Rabbinets, Minions, Sakers, and Demicannons. For as God would haue it, they had no Cannōs, but thus they obiected, and thus I answered.

Cannons signifie rules of law. Now they are not right cannons but ballard cannons, that batter innocency,

Some layd to my charge, I was an idle fellow, and shewed by my writings I had little to doe. Alas sayde I, it is too true, and therefore if you know any man that hath an office to spare, you may do well to prefer me to it: for it were a bad office that I woulde not chaunge for this I haue taken vpon me; and if I had another, I wold be content this were deuided among you.

Some said I was such a foole, to thinke seriously the deuise worthy to be published, & put in practise, as a commō benefite, trust me that is true too.

Some supposed that because my writings now lay dead, & had not benethought of this good while; I thought (as Alcibiades cut off his dogs taile, to make the people talke of his curtall) so I would send my Muse abroad masking naked in a net, that I might say;

Nunc iterum volito vna per ora virum.

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Of my honour that is not true. Will you denie it on your oath? Nay by our Lady, not for a thousand pounds.

- 4 Some said plainly because my last worke was another mans inuention, and that some fine phrase-making fellowes, had found a distinction betweene a versifier and a Poet, I wrote this to shew I could be both when I listed, though I mean to be neither, as I hailes Milesius, by making himselfe rich in one yere, shewed his contempt of riches. The deuill of the lye that is.

- 5 Some surmised against me, that because the time is so toying, that whole some meats cannot be digested without wanton sauce, & that euen at wise mens tables, fooles haue most of the talke, therefore I came in with a bable to haue my tale heard, I must needes confesse it.

- 6 Some saide, that in emulation of outlandish wits, and to bee one of the first English that had giue the venter to make the title of his worke, the worst part of it; I was perswaded to write of such an argument, I will neuer denie that while I liue.

- 7 Some affirmed, that I had taken this laughing libertie to grace some that haue fauored me, and grate, against some that had galled me, *guilty my Lord.*

Alasse poore Gentleman (say the standers
dere

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ders by) he will be condemned certainly for this that he hath confessed already, if he be not saued by his booke: let vs heare what he will answere to the rest of the inditement.

You did meane some disgrace in the letter afore the booke, and in many passages of the booke it selfe, to Ladies and Genelewomen. Who I? God damne me if I loue them not, I feare more to be damned for louing them too well. 8

You did thinke to scoffe at some gentlemen that haue serued in some honorable seruices, though with no great good successe. As I am a Gentleman not guiltie: neither do I meane any, but such as will needes be called M. Capitaines, hauing neither caried out with them, nor brought home with them, worth, wealth, or wit. 9

You did seeke to discredit the honest meaning & laudable endeouours of some zealous and honest men, that seeke for reformation and labour faithfully and fruitfully in the world. To this in al and euery not guilty, provided they raile not against Bishops nor against the Cōmunion booke. You did intēd some scorne to great magistrates and men in authoritie, either aliue or deceased, vnder couert names to couersōe knauerie Knauetie? no as God Iudge me my Lord, not guiltie, the good yere of al the knauery & knaues 10

11
w for

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for me. By whome wil you be tried? By the Queene and the Ladies, by the Counsell and the Lordes. What sawcie younker, wil not meaner triall serue you? No good faith my Lord, I loued alway to be the worst of the company.

Well sirra, this is the iudgement of the Court, that because there is hope you may prooue a wiser man hereafter, and that you haue some better friendes then you are worthie of, you shall haue this fauour; if the inditement happen to bee founde, you shall trauerse it, and you shall chuse twelue freeholders *bonos & legales homines*, that shal enquire of the qualitie of your discourse, and bring in their verdict *quindena Pascha*, and if they finde you guiltie, you shall haue a hole bored in your eare. What to doe, to weare my Mistresse fauour at? Now, God saue your Mistresse life my Lord. Clarke of the peace, draw his inditement vpon the foure last articles that he denied, & vpon the Statute of *Scandala*, for I tell you we must teach you to learne the lawes of the Realme, as wel as your rules of Poetrie. Lawes? I trow I haue the law at my fingers ends.

Ano. 1.2. Phil
M. Cap. 3.
Anno. 23. Elis.
Cap. 2.

*Aures perdentes super & sint pillory stantes,
Scandarumantes in Regis consiliantes,
Aut in magnates noua sedicioso loquentes,
Non producentes autores verba ferentes.*

Their

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*Their eares must on the pillory be nayld,
That haue against her highnesse Counsayle
rayld,*

*Or such as of the Peeres foule brutes do scat-
ter,*

*And cannot bring their author for the mat-
ter.*

Wherefore you shall find I will keepe me
safe enough from scandalizing. And if you doe
it is the better for you.

What is your name? *Misacmos*. What? it
is a Welch name I thinke? Of whence do you
write your selfe? *Misacmos*, of Carnaruan
Gentleman. Who made you of Carnaruan?
Shee that made you of England. Well, you
shall fare neuer the worse for that, but looke
to the answering of your inditement I aduise
you. What must I haue no counsell? Strayght
a bigge fellow, with a biggin on his head, and
his gowne off of one shoulder, cryes no, the
Queene is a partie. But I had rather your
gowne were off the other shoulder, and your
head after, then you should make her a par-
tie against mee, and yet as ill as I loue you, I
would my second sonne had chaunged pos-
sibilities with your eldest, for a thing that I
know. And thus after a few wrāgling words,
me thought the Court rose for that time, and
suddenlie my man came busling into my
chamber, and told me, that al the Gentlemen
that

I meane no
Lawer of our
time, but one
that Martiall
speakes of.

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that had bin riding on the heath were come backe againe, and that it was neare xi. of the clocke, and straight I called for my sute of Abrizetta, and made all the hast I could to make me readie, not so much as tarying to say my prayers, least I might not come tyme enough to the peace of God at the closet, and so I might be in danger to loose my dinner.

But hauing somewhat better pondered with my selfe this foresaid fancie, I was somewhat troubled with it, not so much for those hanging Metaphors, for as a good Knyght of our countrey sayd, gogs soule Sirs, the best Gentleman of vs all need not forswear hanging, but that I thought that my Genius hereby presaged to me some perill to my reputation, of the sundrie censures I shoulde incurre, by letting such a pamphlet fly abroad at such a time, when euery thing is taken at the voley, and therefore I helde it not vnneccessarie, as much as in mee lay, to keepe it from the view and censure of all such as were like to deride it, despise it, or disgrace it, and to recommend it onelye to all such as I thought would allowe it and approue it. For to confes the truth franckly to you my good cosins *ο αγαπητος φιλοςυις* I desire not altogether to haue it concealed, least some hungrie promoting fellowes should beg it as a concalemēt, & beg the author also, for writing a thing

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thing that he were ashamed to shewe, but if I might gouerne the matter as I woulde, I would generally recommend it onely to such as haue houses and families of their own. For I remember I haue read of a certaine kyng of the Lacedemonians, that being one day priuate in his garden, was teaching one of his sonnes of five yeares olde to ride on a stycke, and when a great Ambassadour came to speake with him, and found him in the manner: at which, both the king and the Ambassadour in the kinges behalfe began to blush at first; but soone after, the king put away the blush & the hobby horse together, and with a prettie smile asked the Ambassadour, if he had any little children of his owne; He answered no. Then saide he, I pray you tell not what you founde mee doing, till you haue some little ones of your owne, and then tell it, and spare not: for euen so, I would request men to forbear reading of this discourse, or at least reproouing of it: till they had of their own that that would make them know the commoditie and cleanness of it, and for those that will not, I would but wish them (as Mar iall wishes to Charinus.

Quid imprecabor o seueri Liuenti. Opto Mulos habere & suburbanum) So I woulde they could ryde on their foote-cloth, and had a house, and A IAX of theyr owne. Yet
surely

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surelie it may bee , it were the wisest way to shewe it to none at all , and so I halfe with sometimes, but because euery generall rule must haue his exception, you shall see whom I wold be content both the discourse and the deuise may be shewed vnto.

I
Directions for
shewing the
booke.

1. First to a good & iudicious scholer, for he will read it, ere hee will iudge of it, and say *omnia probate*; and then perhaps after he hath read it, he will smile, and say it is some young Schollers woorke, that would haue shewed more wit if he had had it; but it is well, *videntem dicere vetum quis vetat, &c.* And then he will say, it were good some of his friendes would aduise him to spend his tallent and hys time on some better subiect. But some superfluous fellow, or some stale scribe, that thinke men will not iudge them to bee learned, except they finde faultes; they will sweare, a man would haue written as wel, that had read but *Marcus Aurelius*.

2
A common ex
cuse of such as
breake vp
house.

2. Secondly, I would haue it shewed to a house-keeper, that hath much resort to hym, for it were not only a deed of charity to helpe such a one, but a sinne to hide it from him; for else he may picke a quarrel (and say) that this same companie hath so stench't vp his house, that he must be forced to lye at London, tyll his house be made sweeter.

3

Thirdly, if one be a bulder and no house-keeper,

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keeper, let him see it to, for he loues to haue all fine for his heire; and perhaps I would be content for the loue I haue had to that humour, that my master his sonne, were married to his mistresse my daughter, as Heywood saith of a lusty old widower, that wooed a yōg woman, & boasting how well he would provide for his sonne.

In a short tale, when his long tale was done:

She pray'd him goe home, & send her his son

But if one be a builder, and a house-keeper both; then I will come home to his house to him, I will read him a lecture of it, I will instruct his workeman, I will giue him plots and models, and do him all the seruice I can: for that is a man of my owne humour, and a good common wealthes-man, but yet I will giue him a caueat in his eare, that I learned of Sir Thomas Moore, if his purse be not well furnisht.

*Ædificare domos multas, & pascere multos,
est ad pauperiem, semita laxa nimis.*

*The way from wealth, and store, to want, and
need:*

Is much to build and many mouthes to feede.

Fourthly, if you would know whether you should shewe it to Ladies? Yea, in any wise to all manner of Ladies, of the Court, of the countrey, of the City, great Ladies, lesser Ladies, learned ignoraunt, wise simple, foule
wel

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well fauoured, (painted vnpainted) so they be Ladies, you may boldly prefer it to them. For your milke maids, and countrey house-wiues may walke to the woodes to gather strawberries, &c.

But greater states cannot doe so; and therefore for them it is a commoditie more then I will speake of, yet vpon a touche of thys point, make me but a good rime to this line as for diner.

» *VVithin yon tower, ther is flower, that holds my*
» *heart.*

» Howbeit, you must not shewe it after one
» fashion to al, but to the wise and sober, after a plaine fashion; to the wanton and waggish after an other fashion; as namely, if they crie (fie for shame) whe they heare the title read or such like, doe but you say (for companie) that it is a mad fantastickall booke indeed, and when you haue done hide it away, but wher they may finde it, and by the next day, they will be as cunning in it as you, for this is not the first time that I haue said of such a kinde of booke.

*In Brutus presence, Lucrece wil refuse it,
Let him but turne his backe, and sh'ill peruse it.*

Fiftly, you may shewe it to all amorous young youthes, that will scratch their head but with one finger at once (as Cato noted of *Cesar*) and had rather bee noted of
three

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three disorders in their liues, then of one in their lockes; and speciallye if they bee so cleanelly, that they will not eate pottage (no not alone) but that they will wipe their spoone betweene euery spooneful, for feare least their vpper lippe should infect the neather: for I would thinke certainly, that such a one, if he be so cleanelie as he would seeme to be, would make great account of **A I A X** so well reformed. But yet the world is so full of dissimulation, and hipocrisie, that wee of the plainer sort may be easily deceiued; for I hearde of one the last day, in a towne a hundred myle from London, that had engrossed al the fine fashions into his hands; of the curling, perfuming, wiping the spoone, &c. and yet after all this cleanness, went to as common, and as deformed **A I A X** of the feminine gender, as any was in the towne, and then alas, what will such a one care for my deuise.

Lastly, I would haue it shewed to al good fat corpulent men, that carrye with them a writ of *Corpus cum causa*, for they are commonly the best natured men men that bee; without fraude, without trectherie, as *Cesar* said of *Anthony* and *Dolobella*, that hee neuer mistrusted them for any practise, because he saw they were fat, but rather *Casca* and *Cassius*, that were leane hollow fellowes, and

Praise of fat men.

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Lubberland.

cared not for a good dinner: And therefore I would be sentured by those good fellows that haue lesse gall, and the rather, because I looke euery day for presse money from the Captaine, to be imployed in the conquest of that country, and this engyn of mine is like to be in great request for those seruices.

But mee thinkes, you may say that here is a maruellous restraint made of shewing this discourse of mine, not muche vnlike to our stage keepers in Cambridge, that for feare least they should want companie to see their Comedies, goe vp and downe with vizers, and lights, puffing and thrusting and keeping out al men so precisely; till all the town is drawne by this reuell to the place; and at last tag & rag, fresh men & subfizers, and all be packt in together, so thicke, as nowe is scant left roome for the Prologue to come vpon the stage: for so you may suppose, that I would bar all from this Pamphlet of mine, saue those, that can write, or read, or vnderstand. But if you take it thus, you doe muche mistake it; for ther be diuers from whome I would keepe it, as I woulde from fire and water, as for example.

Fourte sortes
of men, that
will mislike
of the booke.

First, from a passing proud fellow, such
a one as Naaman the Syrian, that would dis-
daine to wash in Iordan, though it woulde
cure him of the Leprosie, or the pox; and to
such

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such for my part, I would wishe they might ,,
lay all in their gold breeches, rather then to ,,
abase their high conceits so much, as to think ,,
vpon poore Master A I A X. ,,

Secondly, from all manner of fooles and
iesters, whether they be artificial, or natural, 2
for those be so dul, they cannot taste the salt,
in a peece of wel poudred writing; and those
be so tart, they will rather loose a friend the
a iest: yet if their rayling were allaide a little,
with the two excellent vertues, of flattering
and begging; one might hope for some kind-
nes at their hands.

Thirdly, if you spie a fellowe with a bay
leafe in his mouth, auoid him, for he carieth 3
a thinge about him worse then Maister A-
I A X, that all the deuises wee haue cannot
reforme.

Fourthly, if you see a stale leane hungrye
poore beggerly thridbare Kaualliero, like 4
to Lazorelloes Maister, that when hee
dyned at his owne houle, came foorth
with more crummes of bread on his beard,
then in his belly, and that beeing descen-
ded of diuers Nobilities, will doe a meane
gentleman the honour to borow ten shil-
linges of him: shew it not him, for though
he can say nothing againste it, yet hee will
leere vnder his hatte as though hee could
speake more then hee thinkes. For such a

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one that makes not a good meale at home
once in a moneth, hath not a good stoole a-
boue once in a weeke, and then hee will
neuer say vs gramercie for it: and this I
may say to you, is a consideration of no smal
importance, for though I must acknowledg,
that is not one of the meritorious woorkes
I looke to bee saued by, yet to haue a prayer
or two from some, that perhappes neuer say
praier any where else, would do me no hurt,
nor them neither. And mee thinke I myght
much better deserue a kn-aue Mery to bee
saide for me, where my stately AIA X is ad-
mitted, and standes men in steede: then he,
for whose soule the young gentleman, the
first time hee consumated his marriage with
his wife, said a *Pater noster*: and being asked
for whom he prayed, he told his wife it was
for his soule, that had taken the paines to
make his way so easie for him. Oh Sir sayde
she, it is a sign you haue trauelled such waies
more then an honest man should haue done,
that you are so cunning, and so they became
good friendes. But ware ryot hoe, whether
am I running? I said I would keepe me from
scandaling, but if I stop not betime, some
will thinke to haue their actiō in the case a-
gainst mee: yet it is good to cast the worst.
Suppose that for my bad indyting, I should
be indyted, as it is twentie to one but if the
ground

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graund Iurie were prickt by a bad Shiriffe,
out of those foure last mentioned sutes (and
of three of them, you shall haue a full appa-
raunce in most Courts of christendom) they
will sure say *billa vera*, though they shoulde
say of right nothing but *ignoramus*. But see
see, euen with thinking of it, I fall againe in-
to my former melancholie, me thinke the in-
ditement is found, I am araigned, I plead not
guilty, I wold stil be tried by the nobility, by
such as builde stately pallaces, & keepe great
courts, but it wil not be graunted me, I must
haue none but freeholders, I chafe at it, and
wold appeale: they crie it is not the course of
the cōmon law, I praise the ciuil law: for ther
a man may holde play with appealing, if hee
haue a little idle money to spende, three or
fower yeare. At last comes the little dapper
fellow my honest Atturney, that knewe bet-
ter the course of these matters then I did and
he roundes me in the care, and tells me, that
for fortie shillings to Maister high shiriffes
man, that weares the russet fatten doublet,
and the yellow silke stockinges, hee will vn-
dertake, I shall haue a Iurie of good free-
holders, but for the Nobillity, it is out of
their commission: and sir (sayth hee) what
neede you to stand so much on the Nobilli-
tie, considering you desire to haue none but
great housekeepers, & builders? For suppose

Proud.
Fooles.
Beggars.

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you could get three or foure to appeare: one at Petworth , an other harde by, there at Coudrey (where in the old Vicounts time *Iupiter hospitales* is saide to haue dwelt) and the young Lorde I heare dooth *patry sare*, or rather I shoulde saye *Anisare*, (and that is a good worde, if he will marke it.) Say also another dwelt at Raglande in Monmouth shire, where I heard a good Knight of Gloucestershire affirme, the most honorable house of that Realme was kept : and a fourth at Nonesuch, where the housekeeper for true English Noblesse and honour, deserues the name, better then the house. But when you shall thinke to make vp the *Tales*, where wil you haue them? some will bee *non est inuentus in balina*, some that you loue best, wyll not be perhappes *intra quatuor maria*, wherefore the Iudge was your friende more then you were aware , that giues you choyce of freeholders.

Wodden
stockes were
fitter for then
then silke
stockinges.

Beleeue mee (saide I) I thynke it is so indeede, holde thee my little dapper knaue, there is fortie shillinges for Maister shiriffes man, to buy him another payre of silke stockinges, and there is fortie pence for thy good counsell, and see you finde me a Iurie of substantiall free-holders, that are good house-keepers to trie my honestye by.

Hce

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Hee goeth, & ere an Ape can cracke a nut (as they say) hee bringes the names, and Master Cryer he comes, twentie shillings in his shoes, and calles them, though hee bee sure they cannot heare him. As followeth.

John Harington of Exton, in the Countie of Rutland Knight, *alias* John Har: of Burleygh, in the Countie aforesaide, *alias* of Combe in the Countie of VVarwicke, *alias* of Ooston in the Countie of Leceister, come into the Court, or else, &c. Hath he freeholde? Yea he is a prittie free-holder in all these shires: Moreuer saith a third man, though he be a free-holder, yet he hath married his daughter to one, that for a grandfather, for a father, for two vncles, and three or foure aunts, may compare with most men in Englād. Lastly a fourth said, & foure hundred confirme it, that hee relieues many poore, and sets them to woorke, he builds not onely his owne houses, but Colledges, and Hospitalls. Marie sir, then shall hee bee foreman of my Iurie with all my verie harte, a builder and an house-keeper both? you cannot deuise to please mee better. I would there were a *decem tales* in euerie shire in England, & on that cōdition, I wold be glad to be one of them. Well, what haue you to say to Syr John Herington? Marie this. Here is one *Misacmos*, that is an accused

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seruants of the state, to be a writer of fantasticall Pamphlets, to corrupt manners; the same suspected of diuers vntruthes and treasons, not sparing the Maiesties of Kings, and great Emperours (saying one was a cuckold and a foole, an other had an ill face, as in the Pamphlet it selfe more plainly appeareth) now because it seemes hee is a Gentleman, and of reasonable good breeding, hee craues to be tried by a substanciall Iurie, of which, for many respectes, he will haue you to bee the forman. Hee pleades to all the principall matters, not guiltie, and iustifies, that those things they call vntruth & treason, are truth, and reason. He is to bee tried, by God and countrie, which countrie you are, wherefore your charge is (if it please you) to read the whole Treatise at your leasure, and then to say how you like it. He saith futher, he cares not to haue you sworne, because your word will be taken for a greater matter then this, by ten thousand pounds without oath. Iury Harington.

Who is next? Sir Iohn Peter of Stonden in the county of Essex knight, a good house-keeper, and a builder both. Hath hee free hold? Yea so so, I thinke hee may weare veluet and sattin, by the statute of (4. & 5. Phil. Ma) for he may dispend twentie Markes a yeere. *ultra reprisas.*

Well

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Well, because he is a builder and a house-keeper, I hope he will not deny me to be of my Iurie. The same charge, &c. that sir Iohn Harington tooke you. &c. and so long may you keepe a good house. Iurie Peter.

Sit Iohn Spenser Knight, a good substantiall free-holder in Northampton shire, and a good house-keeper, and so was the father afore him: Oh I remember him, hee had a poore neighbour once dwelt at Holmeby, that made foure verses, if I haue not forgot them, were fortie shillings out of his way.

Erupuit fors dura mihi, fors altera reddit.

*Hec loca quæ veteri, rudere structa vides:
Aeternos vivat, Magna Elisabetha per annos,
Quæ me tam grato, læto favore beat.*

By S. Mary he had good cause to say, well fare a good Mistresse, or else Holmeby had bin ioyned to your free-hold. How say you worthy Knight (and the best man of your name that is, but not that hath been) wil you be of our Iurie? You will say you know not this same *Misacmos*. It may bee so verie wel; for I thinke the fellowe doth scarce knowe himselfe at this instant, and yet hee learned
270586 : 0707 twenty yceres agoe. Well, I presume you will not refuse it: for though you neuer heard of him, it seemes hee hath heard of you, I will tell you two or three good tokens, you haue three or foure sisters, good well

There were
Earles of the
Spencers.

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well fauored, well featured , well statured,
well natured women , for plaine countrie
wenches: and they were married to men,
a step, or two, or three or fower, aboue the
best ycoman of Kent (well fare all good to-
kens) & one of them is a widow, I besthrow
their hearts, and I would their wiues were
widowes that made her so; I trow it was sir
Iames Harington, & your father; that went
a begging to make a purse to marry their
daughters: but you will make a hundred of
vs goe a begging, if wee should followe you?
wyll you haue any more tokens yet ? you
you had a brother of Lincolnes Inne, and an
other they say keepes a good house , for I
weene the best house-keeper in Englande
was at his house : yet one token more, you
you haue a learned writer of your name,
make much of him, for it is not the least ho-
nor of your honorable family. Iury Spencer.

4 Thomas Stanop Knight, of Shelford in
the Countie of Nottingham, a housekeeper,
a builder, a substantiall freeholder, come in-
to the Court. Alas sir he is lame hee cannot
come. Is hee so indeede? I am sory for it: I
haue heard that he hath borne some sway in
his countrie, yet bid him not forget the old
prouerb a good friend in the court, is worth
apenny in the purse at all tymes. V Vell, if
he cannot come, let vs haue an other. Oh syr
saith

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(sayth one) stay but a *Pater noster* while,
and you may haue his sonne in his place.
What (Maister Iohn Stanop, my old school-
fellow, an honest and valiant Gentleman?) I
will tarrie for him with all my hart. To the
next.

Mathewe Arundell Knight, of Warder
in the Countie of VViltshire, a good free-
holder, and a builder. Tush he is no house-
keeper, so sayde one that dwelles threescore
myle to Trent Northward. Is it so? I wyll
knowe within this moneth, if it bee so or
no? In the meane season, I will venter to
take him if I can meet with him. For firste I
doubt, if he himselfe that saide so, haue spent
so much in honorable seruices, as this free-
holders sonne hath doone.

Secondly, I haue seene both Lordes and
ladies as wel intertained in his poore house,
and serued in as fine plate, and Porssin, as any
is in the North. And admit he were no house-
keeper, yet I wold haue him, because I heare
he is a good horsekeeper, a red deare keeper,
a fallow deare keeper, and other suche base
thinges, as may enable him for my Iury,
Come on olde father Peleus, hee lookes
like Prester Iohn in his furred night cappe;
but hee hath more witte vnder that cappe,
then two or three of his neighbours. V Vill
it please you sir, to bee of our Iurie? It shall
cost

Horse-keeper.

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cost the life of one of the bald faced buckes
else. What are you angry, I call you *Peleus*?
If I were but an other *Prometheus*, I would
swere your fortune should be, to be like *Pe-
leus*: for the time was, that one wrote of your
Thetis, whē she waited on Diana at Hatfield.
*Who marketh well her grace, thereby may plain-
ly see,*

A Laura in her face, and not a willoughbee.

Whist? peace (saith my little Atturney in
mine care) you that are so full of your Poe-
trie, we shall haue a new inditement framed
against you vpon the statute of *Rogues*. For
telling of fortunes. Haue you a verse for that
too? Yes mary haue I sir.

*Fati narrator, Aegyptus prestigator,
Aure perurantur, simul atque flagella sequantur.
All fortune tellers, Iuglers and Egiptions,
Are burnd in th' care, or whipt by lawes pre-
scriptions.*

Notwithstanding, I trust a man may by
poetica licentia and by Example of *Virgil*, tell
fortunes that be past, yet little saide is soone
amended; howbeit, I will not forget to bee
thankfull to this good Knight, for one spe-
ciall fanour hee did mee. And that was; hee
made me goe when I was with him at War-
der, to as stately A I A X house (for a Som-
mer house) and as sweet, as any can be, in a
standing made in an Oke, that hangs ouer a
ponde,

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ponde, and maruell not I call it flately: for this Maister AIA X, if you bring but an angled rod, and a crosbow with you, will afford choice of three royall sportes, to kill Deare, foule, and fish: now this I take it, was more then common kindnes, and so much for iurie Arundell.

Frauncis Willoughby Knight, of Woolerton in the Countie of Nottingham, a good freeholder, a housekeeper, and a great builder. Oh my neighbour that dwels a hundred mile from mee, and yet but a hedge partes our land? good morrow neighbour with the faire houle, the faire wife, & the faire liuing, *Tout bean*, I pray you let vs haue a faire verdict from you in our matter, or else I will promise you, I will rather lye in the worst Inne in Nottiugham, then in the fairest bed-chamber in your house: and if you wilbe of our side, I will pray that all your faires, may be the fairer, one for another. Iurie V Willoughby.

Iohn Berin Knight, of the same Countie, a great good housekeeper. Marie Gods blessing on his heart for it. Indeede I remember they would say, that Sir Iohn Berin for Nottinghamshire, was as great a housekeeper as Sir Edward Baynton in Wiltshire: and then I will bee sworne, hee was a good one. Well, let vs make much of him, for there is
but

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but a few of them left I trust he will not refuse me, for my Iurie. Iurie Berin.

George Sampooke Knight, a Lincolnshire man, and a Lincolns Inne man, a good freeholder, and keeps a good house in his country (as I heare) but I knowe my neighbours of Bath wil affirme, that he kept good hospitality there: and that he and his faire Lady both, are a worthy, vertuous, and a godly couple.

Well, let them be as godly as they may, and as perfect in the Scripture as *Priscilla & Aquila*; I hope they will not deny, but I haue good authorities, for my teshe, and giue a friendly verdict. Iury Sampooke.

Raph Horsey Knight, the best housekeeper in Dorsetshire, a good freeholder, a deputie Lieutenant. Oh Sir, you keep hauks, and houndes, and hunting horses; it may be some made fellowe will say, you must stand in the Bath vp to the chinne, for spending five hundred poundes, to catch hares, and Partridges, that might bee taken for five pounds.

According to
the tale in the
hundred me-
ry tales,

But if you do come to Bath (so you wil be one of my Iurie) I will stand as deepe in the bath as you, and it is odds, but at the spring and fall, we shall meet good company there. I pray you giue a friendly verdict, for old acquaintance betweene Kinges Colledge, and
Tri-

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Trintiy Colledge. Iurie Horsey.

Sir Hugh Portman of Orchard, in the county of Somerset Knight, a good house-keeper, a builder, and a substantiall freholder. Marie Sir I might ill haue spared him. Come my good Knight, I haue kept you in store for a dead list, I hope you will sticke close to vs, for the law: for you haue as much if you list to shewe it, as some that weare coifes. Besides you haue that same soueraign medicine against the cōsumption, called *an-rum potabile*: and I knowe your neighbours of Taunton say, you are liberall of it, and for your good hospitality, your neighbours of the Court will say, you are no niggard of your meat. Yet I remember one day, whē I told a good friend of yours: that I was sure you neuer took vsury: wel (saith he) though I grant he doth many men kinde pleasures, yet hee doth them not all *gratis*. I promised him I would tell you so, and to picke a further thanke, I will tell you what I answered him. (For I guessed at his meaning, by meanes I had once sōe smattering of the Latin tonge) if your *gratis* (quoth I) be an adiectiue, the fault is theirs, and the praise is his.

Gratis significeth to thank-ful persons. But *gratis* the aduerb signifies freely.

Well Sir Hugo, I will come shortly and see your newe buylded Orchard (I thinke there is not twoo better Orchardes in England, and put Kent to it) and when
we

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we haue conferred, for reforming one fault there (you can smell my meaning I am sure) then would I aske your opiniõ, which makes a man happier, *to be wise, or rich.* I asked a philosopher once, and he said he could not tell, because he saw stil the wise men waite at the rich mens doores.

Well happie are you if you can decide this question, and happier if you cannot decide it. A rich man, a wise man, a builder, and specially a batcheler. *Franco, sciolto, flegato, o che felice stato?* Wherefore keepe you so still, and belceue mee it is the happiest state, yet tell not my wife that I say so, for (of my honesty) shee will make mee vn say it againe, with all my heart. Iurie Portman. Cryer count them.

Sir Iohn Harington, one. Sir Iohn Peeter, two. Sir Iohn Spenser, three. Sir Thomas Stanop, foure. Sir Mathew Arundell, fise. Sir Frauncis Willoughby, fixe. Sir Iohn Berin, seuen. Sir George Sampoule, eight. Sir Raph Horsey, nine. Sir Hugh Portman, ten. whop, why howe nowe Master K. Shiriffes man? Here is but ten, giue me a noble of my 40. shillinges backe againe. Oh speake soft sir, you shall haue a *tales* for twoo more, the best wee can get, but wee can finde you no more Knights. There is twoo names more for you. Who haue we here? Raph Sheldon
of

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of Beeley, in the County of Worcester Esquire. Thomas Markham Gentleman.

First let vs see what this Sheldon is. Hath he freeholdes? Yea sir. He is a good freeholder, a great house keeper, a builder, an excellent common wealths man, as any is in al his country, I will warrant you, hee will bee

for you. Not too much of your warrantes. What said Henry Tuttle to his grādfather? What is a knaves warrant worth A by word in Somersetshire

Giue mee leaue I pray you a little, I haue heard he is an vnthrif, I haue forgotten at what game it was, but I am sure it was faide, if he had not faire play playd him, he was in daunger within these two yeares, to haue lost his lande, by one play or other. By the masse it is true, there was such a matter. Wel, let him thanke a guiltlesse conscience, and a gracious Princeesse, that hee sped no worse.

And let him pray for Traians soules with S. Gregorie.

On these same *Oues & Bones*, & *Pescora*, *Campi*, a flocke of white sheepe in a greene field, and a new house on a high hill; I tell you, they bee perillous tempting markes to shoot at.

It is strange to see the worlde, not halfe a yeere before, I hearde one that was a great Courtier say, that he thought him one of the sufficientest wise men of England, and fittest to haue been made of the Counsell, but for one matter, and indeed by *Cornelius Agrippa* his rule, that is a right Courtiers commendation:

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tion: For after they had roused three or four idle wordes to praise a man, straight they mar al at the buts: I would to God for their owne sakes and mine too, they could leaue it. Well Master Sheldon, I pray you bee of our Iury, for you haue made a fine house at Weston (but I know one fault in it.) Nowe though I praise your house like a Courtier with a but, you must bring in your verdict, like a plaine countryman, without your but.

Thomas Markham gentleman come to the Court, which Markham is this? blacke Markham keeper of Bescowd, why hee is a Squire, I trow I haue a verse for it, made by a most honorable Poet.

*Thomas Markham the gentle Squire,
Whom Sir Fulke Greenill cal'd a grimfire.*

Yea it is true, but the case is altered since: for that same good Knight is lame, or else I dare answer he would haue appeared on this Iurie himselfe (and his son is an honorable Gentleman, and a great states man may do a man displeasure about the Queene, it is not good troubling of him.) If he be that Markham I will none of him, for I heard a noble Philosopher of the same coat that the Poet was, say that he is a Stoicke, & I will no Stoickes of my Iury; of the two extreames, I would rather haue Epicures. Besides that, I would haue no such blacke fellowes, for we shall

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shall haue some of these Poetrye men say, as one said of Sir Harry Goodyear when hee wrote *Candida sint comitum Goodyeery nil nisi nigrum*, he wrate vnderneath it. *Hic niger est, hunc tu Regina caueto*, a good yeere on him for his good caueat, for hee hath had since some young scholars that haue learned to put in the like *caueats*. *Cane credas* take heed you trust him not, but *Tullie* saith in his oration *pro Ligario*, *nonne omnem humanitatem exuerunt?* Haue they not cast away all sence of humanitie? And a little after saith the same *Tullie* of *Cane ignoscas*; *Hec nec hominis, nec ad hominem vox: qua qui apud te C. Caesar utetur, suam ipsi citius abiicient humanitatē, quam extorquebunt tuam*, thus in England. Take heed you pardon not. O lewd speech, not fit to be spoken of a man nor to a man, which speech, whosoever shal vse to thee (ô more then *Cæsar*) shall sooner discover their owne cruell inclination, then extort from thee thy naturall clemencie. O deuine *Tullie*, is not this christianly spoken of a heathen? were not that heathenishly spoken of a christian? Well he that should put in such a *caueat* for me, I would follow presently a *quare impedit*, why I might not present him for a *cnave* at little Brainford and lesse honestie.

Thomas Markham Gentleman, come to the Court; Yet againe? I tell thee I will

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In memoria
etern- erit
iustus.

Ascend and
said, Lopus
had bin him
say, he was a
dangerous
man with
Caue credas
Tanquã ster-
cus, memoria
impiorum.

A lewd libel
made a tpe
deat fthe
Lord Chans-
cellor Hat-
tou.

none of him, one said hee lookt blacke on him: yea, but he that found such fault with his complexion, I heard on tell him was dead, and he answered very charitably, yong he was, and poore he was, and knaue he was, & so God haue mercy on his knaues soule. Faith, that is like enough to be his aunswere. Then it may bee hee is cleere, otherwise, though he looke blacke. Cleare, yea on my worde, *Candido pin nel chor che di fuor cigno*. What is that? *Rara avis in terris nigroque similimo Cigno*; Iust as Iermins lippes, nowe you haue compared him well, as white as a black swan. Well I haue no minde to haue him of my Iurie, hee is but a poore freeholder, he hath no credite. No credite? Why his bond hath been taken for twenty thousand pounds. Hath it? more foole he, I will neuer trust him for halfe so much, I pray thee looke me some better freeholder. Why sir? I aduise you do not scorne him, though hee be no Knight, he had a Knight to his father, and hath a Knight to his son, you may well admit him of your Iurie. I tell thee my lytle knaue, thou doost presse mee beyonde good manners, I will not haue him. Harke in your eare, they say he is mal-contêt. Who saith so? Nay who saith not so? *Unton is vndone, Markham is mal-content*. Who hath not heard that? Wherefore make no more adoc,

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adoe, but send me for his Nephewe Robert
that came of the elder house, & of the bloud
of Lancaster, he that maister Secretary Wal-
fingham gaue the Arabian horse, I would
haue him, hee is a fairer complexioned man
by halfe, and in sadnes I wish him well. Hey
ho: what doost thou sigh? Alas sir he would
come with al his hart, but he is busie sitting
on a commission, (I haue forgotten in what
bench it is) and when he hath doone there,
he must goe they say to an other Bench at
Oxford. What Robert Markham of Gort?
so honest a gentleman, so good a house kee-
per, so well descended, so well affected in re-
ligion, & become such a Benchier, that when
he is called is forth comming, but not com-
ming forth? I am sorie I can do him no plea-
sure, I would his best cosin did know it. The
time hath beene, that if he coulde haue wal-
ked with a little thicke like a ragged staffe
on his sleeue, or if he had had but a walking
hynde, or a ramping stag, or the white birde,
that is such a beauty to the Thamis, he shold
not haue laine so long after his resting: well
then I perceiue the world goeth harde on al
the Markhams sides; I thinke they bee all
mal-contentes, they shal none of them be of
my Iurie, I pray God they doe not say that I
am of kinne to them, for indeede my name
Misacmes begins with an M. What if one

Kings Bench
Penniless
Bench.

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should write *Misacmos* is *mal-content*; I would
leape vppon the letter and replie. By your
leauē you lye, like a lout lewd maister libel-
ler. But *Markham* is *mal-content*; how proue
you it? *Scriptum est enim*; for it is wrieten, but
is in *libro fictio*. I would you coulde name
mee your author; yet let vs examine this *ig-
noro*, if he say true. Let vs do him the fauour
that men do to Astronomers, if they tel but
one true tale, beleue him in a hundred lyes,
sure you lied in al the rest good M. Libeller,
for first he that you saide was vndone, liued
to do more seruice for his Countrie, then e-
ueryou will do, and many thinges are left
vndone by his death, that might perhappes
haue beene much better doone, and he that
you saide fadeth, dooth nowe flourish with a
guilt Axe in his hande, in a much more ho-
norable seruice, and he that you saide wai-
led, is well and merrie (he thanks you not)
and hee you saide was bankrout, payes the
Queene more subsidy, then you and I both
I dare lay a wager, & the other two, the one
need not goe bare head, for want either of
hat or haire, and the other will neither dodg
nor doubt to shewe his face as you dooe.
Wherefore M. Libeller though in this
matter you are cited and beleueed better
then Saynt Austen, yet I beleue you not
in saying *Markham* bee *mal-content*; and
yet

Agrippa.

The libell
is thine.
Vnpt is
is vndone.
Markham is
mal-content.

Floure fadeth

Swaile wai-
leth.

Bancroft is
bankrout.

Hatton is
hat off.

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yet at a venture , I woulde you had the causes of discontent that they haue , so they had none of them , but this I will distinguish vppon the authoritie alleadged; that taking *mal-content* as an honest man might take it, namely a man sorrowfull for the greuous losse of his greatest friend; the vngratefull requitall of moste kinde and friendly offices , the vnaduised reuolt of his deare sonne , the vnaccustomed frowne of his dread soueraigne, if a man felt no discontent in these , I would say hee were a stocke and not a Stoicke, but vnderstanding it as I know you woulde be vnderstood e, that they be *mal-content* as ill affected to theyr Prince, I dare say you lie in plane English, but ther is one will come hœ shortly I trow, that wil tel you, if you be so full of the French, as I take you to be, *Tu ments par la gorge*. But good M. Libeller and your fellowes, I knowe your meanings you woulde faine make *mal-content*s, and it greeues you you cannot, the water is so cleare for your fishing, you catch nothing but goodgins, the great fishes bee too warie, and now you are faine to lesseon your meafnes contrary to statute being willyng to play any game rather then sit out. Or I thinke you haue read the policy of Richard the thirde , who to giue his wife a preparatiue to her death, gaue out first she was dead,

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hoping that this corſiue (cordiall I woulde haue ſaide) might breake her heart, as it did indeed.

So you worthy members of your country (God amēd you, for I was ſaying, the plague take you all) when you woulde make Malcontentes, then your pollicie giues out firſte that they be ſo. Oh take heed of ſuch a one, he is a dangerous man. A puritan, why ſo? Hee will not ſweare nor ride on a Sunday, thē he wiſhes to wel to the Scottiſh church, note him in your tables. Another is a paſiſt. How know you? He ſaid he hoped his grand fathers ſoule was ſaued. Tuſh but he goes to Church. Marie they be the moſt perillous men of all. And why ſo I pray you? if they will venter their ſoules to pleaſure their Prince, what do you ſuſpect them of? Oh if they be Catholike, they are Spaniſh in their hearts, for he is their Catholike King. By my ſay that is ſomewhat you ſay, but I pray you, you that are not Spaniſhe but all for the French, what religion is the French King of? Oh no more of that, you will anſwere that when Callis is French againe. Fare you well Sir.

Thomas Markham Gentleman, come into the Court, and plucke vp thy olde ſpirits. Is not this he ſhould haue bene controul-
led?

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led? What euill hath he done? His seconde son grew so great, he could not finde roome ynough in Englande. Alas poore boy, God punisheth oft the sinne of the father on the childrē, but neuer but once that I haue read of the sonnes offence on the father. Is there no body hath a son so farre of? I trow there is. And yet he a true and woorthy Gentleman.

Thomas Markham Gentleman, her Maiesties seruant extraordinary, come to the Court. Why was he once ordinary? Yea that he was, Aske olde Hatfield men, and aske them quickly too, for they be almost al gon. Why man he was standerd bearer to the woorthy bande of Gentlemen Pentioners. What did he leaue such a place *gratis*? yea *gratis* the aduerbe. Why would he leaue it? Because it asked such perpetuall attendance. Oh now you haue answered me, he shall be none of my Iurie for that. Had he so little wit? Well Sir saith my Atturney, I pray you dally no more but take him, for you may haue a worse else. I say vnto you he is a right English man, a faithfull, plaine, true, stout gentleman, & a man of honesty & vertue. Out asse. What dost thou tel me of these stale fashions of the sword & buckler time? I tell thee they are out of request now, (honest & vertuous) I durst as leaue you had tolde

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tolde me a tale of an olde Iakes. Of A I A X?
Marie that I can doe to. I assure you he loues
an easie cleanly Iaxe maruellous well, and
hee is a very good fellowe at the Iaxe, for if
one be his deare friend, hee will let him tarie
with him, while he is at his busines. I thinke
he saith his prayers there, for I will be sworne
I heard him say oft times, I thanke God I
haue had a good stoole, &c. May I belecue
this of your word? yea be bolde of it, I can
prooue both this & all the rest by very good
witnesse. Why didst thou not say thus muche
at the first? I would haue had him, though
I had gone to Barwicke on foote for him.
What a good freeholder, a builder, and a
housekeeper, and loues a sweete Iaxe too,
though he cannot be *Alpha* of my Iurie, yet he
shall bee *Omega*. Come on M. Markham I
muste craue lesse acquaintance of you as
grim as you looke, did not a Lady say once,
that I shoulde fare the better for that good
face of yours, and God thanke her for it, so
I did indeede: yet now some will make me
belecue, I fare the worse for it. Bee of good
cheare man. What makes you so sad? I haue
commendations for you from your olde friend
Thomas of Ormond hath sent you a hawke
will make you liue one yere the longer. I can
not make him looke merily on me for all this,
he sees he cannot liue long, he must thinke of
his

A most hono-
rable Earle &
true friend.

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his graue. Tush man though you cannot liue long, you may linger (an please God) as others haue done, some 3. or 4, and 20. yeares yet. What say you? no life? M. Richard Drake hath you commended, and would haue you get the Queene an other gelding, for Gray Markham will haue his old M. fault and fortune both, he will be olde, and then they will not care for him. Not a word yet? I will make him speake anon. You shall haue your sonne ioyned patent with you for Bescood, if he wil come home & be a true knight to the crown. What say you to that? Mary gospell in your mouth, and if he can be proued other, I renounce him for my son. Oh haue you founde your tongue nowe? Well sir, I haue a sute to you, I pray you appeare on my Iurie, & giue a good verdit of our booke called M. ALAX. you know the book well enough, I read you a sleepe in it, once or twice as we went from Greenwich to Westminster. Out vppon it haue you put it in print? did not I tell you the Charles Chester & 2. or 3. such scoffing fellows would laugh at you for it? Yes: & dyd not I tel yon again, that I would laugh too, & so we might all be merry? Well grim fire let mee haue a friendly verdict, if it bee but for teaching you to amend a falt at Bescood, that I felt there 24. winters agoe: and if you do not say well of it, I will cause one or other that
hath

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hath beene at M. A I A X with you, report
it in Court to your disgrace, and your loane
shal be disgraced too for tying your points,
and sitting by you so homelie (yet I would
I had given 100. pounds shee neuer had had
worse nor yntruer tale told of her,) and so
fare you wel good Master Markham, & god
send you many a good stool. And thus with
much adoe, the Iurie was impannelled. Now
began I to haue a good hope, nay rather a
firme assurance of my acquital, hauing got a
Iurie of so good sufficiencie, so great inte-
gritie, so sound abilitie: but it is commonly
seene, that in matters depending in contro-
uersie, the greatest daunger is bred by too
much security: for the accusatiō was so hard
followed, that some of their Iurie began to
be doubtfull of their verdict, the witnesses
were so many, their allegations so shrewd,
and the euidence so pregnant. And not only
the faults of this present pamphlet, but my
former offences, which were before the par-
don (contrary to the due course of al courts)
were inforced against me. At first, to proue
I had wronged not only Ladies of the court,
but al womens sex; they had quoted a stans
in *Hary Osto* beginning thus.

*Tee courtly Dames that are both kinde and true,
Vnto your Lordes, if kinde and true be any,
As sure I am in all your lovely crue,*

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Of so chaste minde, there are not ouer many :
And after in the hoasts tale, worse, if worse
may be.

Now he began to hold his wife excused,
His anger now a little is relented,
And though that she her bodie had abused,
And to a seruant had so soone consented.

And after, in the person of Rodomant.

*Vngratefull, false, craftie you are and cruell,
'Borne of our burning hell to be the fuell.*

Not her for this, but he the sex accus'd,
That neuer can with one ma be on ente,
If all (quoth he) with one like staine are spotted,
Yet on a monster mine was not besotted.

And lastly, in this pamphlet to compare,
or rather to confound baudie houses and
Iakes houses, curtelans, and Carters, with
angels and Hermits, there were three or
fowre of the Iurie (that said) the time had
beene, they would haue thought it no good
manners. But *Alpha* and *Omega*, that haue
euer thought chastitie a vertue, acquitted me
at last, saying, to scorne vice, shewed a loue
of vertue. And for the rest, I pleaded not
onelic a generall but a speciall pardon. Yet
least the standers by should thinke I had
been guiltye, or that I had beene burnt in
the hand, for the like fact before: I answered,
that in the verse I did but followe my
author. The whole worke being enioyned

me

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me as a penance by that Saint, may rather
goddesse, whose seruice I am onely deuoted
vnto. And as for the verses before alleadged
they were so flat against my conscience, that
inserted somewhat more then once, to qua-
lifie the rigor of those hard speeches. For ex-
ample against railing Rodomont, I said thus.

*I tremble to set downe in my poore verse,
The blasphemies that he to speake presumes:
And writing this, I do know this that I,
Oft in my hart do giue my pen the lye.*

And in an other place, to free mee from all
suspition of pretended malice, and to shewe
a manifest euidence of intended loue, where
my author very sparingly had praised some
wiues, I added of mine own () so much
as more I thinke was neuer saide for them,
which I will heere set downe *ad perpetuam*
rei memoriam, and that all posteritie may
knowe howe good a husband I would bee
thought.

Mine owne
subauditur
verse or wise
which you
will.

*Loe here a verse in laud of louing wiues,
Extolling still our happie married state,
I say they are the comfort of our lines,
Drawing a happie yoke, without debate.
A plai-fellow, that far off all grieffe drines,
A Steward, early that provides and late;
Faithfull, and kind sober, and sweet, & trustie.
Nurse to weake age, and pleasure to the lustie.*

Further for the faults escaped in this fore
alleaged

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alleadged Pamphlet, I protested I was ready to make a retractation for their better satisfactiō; as namely: First for that homely comparison that I made between my Lady Cloacinas house, and my Lady Floras Nymphes, I take it not to holde in generall, but within this exception, Except it be a very foule and deformed harlot; or a very cleane and reformed A I A X.

Secondly for the rules of taming a shrew, that I cōmended for the wiser, I here protest against that rule: for if it haue not bene followed within the first yeer or a day,

Aristotle ruled by his wife.

it is too late to proue a new rule afterwards. And therefore I hold it as a rule or maxime, proued by naturall Philosophie, confirmed by ancient historie, and therefore may heere bee concluded in our poore Poetry in this sort.

Concerning wines take this a certaine

That if at first you let them haue the

Your selfe at last with them shall haue no

Except you let them euermore to

rule,

rule,

rule,

rule,

Semiramis, asked leaue to rule but a week, but you know what followed.

At this the whole Iury weremery and agreed all to quite me. And as for those that articulated against mee, some of them are so tickled with this answere, as I am sure they will neuer accuse me for an enemy to Ladies any more.

The

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The next article was for abusing the name of a great souldier, both in that being a *Gracian*, I make him speake in *Latrina Lingua*; and that hauing beene so renowned for his valew in warres, I would say his picture was sette in so homely a place, that it might also thereby seem to haue beene called after his name in English. Now this matter was followed very hotly by halfe a dozen gallant souldiers, that neuer saw naked sworde out of Fleetstreet, and these came in swearing, that I had touched them in honor, and they would therefore fight with me about it. The Iurie seemed to make but light of the matter, but yet to satisfie the Gentlemen, specially two of them, that had beene likened to *Brutus* and *Cassius* and called *ultimi Rustianorum*, they wisht me to answer them, which I did in this sort. I said I was loth to fight, for the iestification of my wit: & further, I could name them two honest gentlemen that had offered M. A I A X as great abuse as this, & he had put it vp at their handes, they asked who they were? I tolde them they were two of his countrymen, one they called him M. Plato, the other M. Pluiarke, of whom the one in his tenth booke *de Repub.* saith, that the soule of A I A X went into a Lion, & the other saith, it had bin as good for it to haue gone into an asse, & both agree that it went into

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into hell . And if reading of this will satisfie you, I will turne you to the place, and lende you the booke in Latine or in French , for that I thinke is your better language, and I protest to you , it is an excellent chapter, wherein the same Plutarke very diuinely sheweth howe predestination and free-will, and chance, may all stand together. The poxe on Plutarke and you too (sayth one of these fighting fellowes,) reade him who I st, for I will neuer reade him: but why should he or you either abuse a souldiers name? Oh Syr said I, good words I pray you though I dare say you wil he mee no worse then you haue your selfe : for I know you are a Gentleman of three decents, but if that be beyond your reading, let mee come within compasse of your studie, I know you haue read old Scogins iestes. Did not he when the French king said he had set our kings picture in the place where his close stoole stands. Sir saith he, you doe the better, for euery time you looke on him, you are so afrayd, that you haue need of a close stoole. Now I hope I offer A I A X no greater scorne then that was, yet thanks be to God their successors remain good friends. This did somewhat better answere them, but not fully. Nay maisters (quoth I,) if you stand on the puntillios with me: whomsoeuer this aunswere will not serue, let him send mee the

D d.

breth

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Recantare is
sing the same
song againe.

breadth of his buckler, (I should say the length of his rapier) and draw himselfe as lineally, from Captaine Medons Grandfather , as I haue deriued A I A X from *S. ercutius* , and I will presently make a recantation of all I haue sayd. At last to take vp the quarrell; Sir M.A. and M.R.S. set downe their order, that he should not bee called any more Captaine A I A X, nor Monsieur A I A X, but Don A I A X & then to this second Article they all agreed, not guiltie.

These swearing fellowes beeing thus discharged, there comes a couple of formall fellowes, in blacke cloakes faced with veluet, and hats futable to the same, and vnder their hats little night-caps, that couered their Epimetheus, but not their Prometheus, hauing speciall care to keep their braine worme, (yet one of them was sayde to bee a hote brayned fellow,) the other had no great fault that I know, saue that he would say too long a grace afore dinner, insomuch that one of his owne coat told him one day, that if he had thought to haue heard a collation, he would haue sung a Psalm before it. These whispered two or three of the Iurie in the eare , and after hauing made a ducking curtesie or two , bad the Lord to guide their worshippes, and so went backe to their Chambers at the signe of the Bible : leauing a madde fellowe their Attorney,

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Attorney, to vrge the accusation they had brought, which was in shewe verie sharpe and haynous, to this effecte, That they supposed me to be in heart a Papist. Straight I searcht euery corner of my heart, and finding no such thought in it, I asked why anie man should say so? I knowe (say I) some of you would see my heart out by your willes: but for that you shall pardon mee: But this yee knowe, *ex abundantia cordis, os loquitur*, out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. And heere I protest to you all, I neuer defended any opinion of religion, eyther by way of argument, or writing, that in any point gainsaieth the Cōmunion booke. Let my accusers say so if they can. Yes Sir, saith their zealous Attorney, I heard one testified *visa voce* in a pulpit, that you had defended a popish opinion, of a second coming of Elias. And if I mistake him not much, I trowe his good liuing growes not so fast with his new benefite, as his good name withers with his ill behauour. But if he vse no better behauour, then to tell me my faults at Bathe when I am at London, I may fortune play the bad horseman, and spurre him at London, for stumbling so ill fauored lie at Bathe. Or if I would ride like a hot spurte, he might happe like a dulle Iade (asse he is) be
wrong

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wrong on the withers, as one of his coat was for such a matter in the same place. It may be he thinkes he hath aduantage of mee, because hee can prate in a Pulpit *cum licentia*, but he shall see by this litale, that I haue liberty if I list, to reply in print *cum priuilegio*. And my replication may fortune bee as forcible as his answere.

For some of
these hope are
but Protestants
of anno Pri-
mo Eliz.

More I would haue said (for I was in choller) but some of the Iurie wished me (for satisfying of the company) to tell what religion I was of. It was a strange question to be asked mee afore such a Iurie (considering I came not thither to be Catechised) & therefore I determined to make them as straunge an answere, such as shoulde please them all, or displease them all ere I had doone. First I sayd, neyther *Papist*, *Protestant*, nor *Puritan*. Then all sayd, they would condemne mee as a neuter or *nulli fidem*, except I gaue a better answere.

Then I sayd I am a *Protesting, Catholicke Puritan*. Iush say they, how can that bee? Forsooth euen thus, to beleue well, to doe well, and say well, to haue good faith, good works, and good wordes, is not that a good religion? Yes indeede, so done, were very well said. But said they directly we expect your answer, what you count to bee true Religion? Why then

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then directly thus I answered, out of S. Iustus Epistle, the two last verses, you shall see who be of a wronge religion, and who bee of the right. Iustus? Oh saith one by and by, I thinke he meanes Iames. and straight he puls a little booke out of his sleete, that looked like *Ianus* picture, with two faces standing East and West, (but it was a testament bound to the backside of Dauids Psalmes) and turning to the place, he read as followeth; If a man thinke himselfe religious, not refraining his tongue, but seducing his heart, this mans religion is vaine.

To haue a bad
tongue, is bad
religion.

Pure religion and vndefiled before God, euen the Father, is this, to visite Orphanes and Widowes in their afflictions, and to keep your selfe vndefiled from the world. Why then saith one, if you profesie so pure a religion, it seemes you are a puritan. Euen so.

More time would haue beene spent in this matter, but that Sir H. P. tolde them these thinges belonged to the high Commissioners, and therefore wisht them to proceed to the next.

Now for the last article, because it was concerning only the Pamphlet it selfe; the whole Iury referred the censuring thereof to Sir H. P. to say if any thing therein were against the Lawe, because hee was well scene in the Law.

He

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Judge Markhā
would haue
beene of that
opinion in the
time of Ed. the
1st and Iudge
Portman your
grandfather in
his time vi.

Sapientis est
nihil prestare
præter culpam

He told them, that indeede hee had read it more then once: and that for ought hee could obserue in it, it did not in any pointe offende either common or statute lawe. But (saide he) there is a law (as I take it) more common the Ciuill, that saith, thinges must be as they be taken. Yet for my part, in my verdict I wold not say any mans eares are hornes, what the rest said, I could not tell, for that I was sent away, yet I ouer-heard one of them say, hee would talke with a counseller, to enforme him better of the law. But I finding that to grow so doubtfull, that I thought to haue bin so cleare, began now to thinke it my safest course, to sue for a pardon. And with that I awaked, vowing I would neuer write anie more such idle toyes, if this were well taken: praying the readers to regard it, but as the first line of Ilops fables.

Gallus gallinationis dum vertit stercorarium, inuenit gemmam.

FINIS.